

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Original) A magnetic recording medium comprising:

- a non-magnetic substrate;
- at least a non-magnetic under-layer on said non-magnetic substrate;
- at least a first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said non-magnetic under-layer;
- at least a second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;
- at least a magnetic layer on said second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;
- at least a protective film and a liquid lubricant layer sequentially laminated on said magnetic layer;
- said magnetic layer being a plurality of ferromagnetic grains and non-magnetic grain boundaries;
- said plurality of ferromagnetic grains containing at least cobalt and platinum;
- said non-magnetic grain boundaries including at least an oxide substantially surrounding said plurality of ferromagnetic grains;
- said first intermediate layer containing oxygen and being composed of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Re and Os; and
- said second intermediate layer being at least a CoCr alloy including at least one element selected from the group consisting of Nb, Mo, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ta, W, Re, Os, Ir and Pt.

Claim 2 (Original) A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein: said non-magnetic substrate is at least a first plastic; said first plastic being at least one of a polycarbonate and a polyolefin.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording medium ~~according to claim 1,~~
comprising:
a non-magnetic substrate;

at least a non-magnetic under-layer on said non-magnetic substrate;
at least a first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said non-magnetic under-layer;
at least a second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;
at least a magnetic layer on said second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;
at least a protective film and a liquid lubricant layer sequentially laminated on said magnetic layer;
said magnetic layer being a plurality of ferromagnetic grains and non-magnetic grain boundaries;
said plurality of ferromagnetic grains containing at least cobalt and platinum;
said non-magnetic grain boundaries including at least an oxide substantially surrounding said plurality of ferromagnetic grains;
said first intermediate layer containing oxygen and being composed of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Re and Os;
said second intermediate layer being at least a CoCr alloy including at least one element selected from the group consisting of Nb, Mo, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ta, W, Re, Os, Ir and Pt;
~~wherein:~~ a crystal structure of said second intermediate layer is hexagonal close packed;
a crystal structure of said plurality of ferromagnetic grains in said magnetic layer is hexagonal close packed; and
a misfit between lattice constants of unit cells of said second intermediate layer and unit cells of said plurality of ferromagnetic grains is within $\pm 3\%$.

Claim 4 (Original) A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein: said under-layer is at least one of chromium and a chromium alloy; and at least one of a (200) lattice plane and a (211) lattice plane in said under-layer is preferentially oriented in parallel with a film surface of said under-layer.

Claim 5-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Original) A magnetic recording device comprising: a magnetic recording medium as defined by claim 1.

Claim 10 (Original) A magnetic recording medium comprising:

- a non-magnetic substrate;
- at least a non-magnetic under-layer on said non-magnetic substrate;
- at least a first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said non-magnetic under-layer;
- at least a second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;
- at least a magnetic layer on said second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;
- at least a protective film and a liquid lubricant layer sequentially laminated on said magnetic layer;
- said magnetic layer being a plurality of ferromagnetic grains and non-magnetic grain boundaries;
- said plurality of ferromagnetic grains containing at least cobalt and platinum; said non-magnetic grain boundaries including at least an oxide substantially surrounding said plurality of ferromagnetic grains;
- said first intermediate layer being at least a CoCr alloy including at least one element selected from the group consisting of Nb, Mo, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ta, W, Re, Os, Ir and Pt; and
- said second intermediate layer containing oxygen and being composed of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Re and Os.

Claim 11 (Original) A magnetic recording medium according to claim 10, wherein: said non-magnetic substrate is at least a first plastic; said first plastic being at least one of a polycarbonate or polyolefin.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording medium ~~according to claim 10,~~
comprising:

a non-magnetic substrate;

at least a non-magnetic under-layer on said non-magnetic substrate;

at least a first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said non-magnetic under-layer;

at least a second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer on said first non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;

at least a magnetic layer on said second non-magnetic metallic intermediate layer;

at least a protective film and a liquid lubricant layer sequentially laminated on said magnetic layer;

said magnetic layer being a plurality of ferromagnetic grains and non-magnetic grain boundaries;

said plurality of ferromagnetic grains containing at least cobalt and platinum;

said non-magnetic grain boundaries including at least an oxide substantially surrounding said plurality of ferromagnetic grains;

said first intermediate layer being at least a CoCr alloy including at least one element selected from the group consisting of Nb, Mo, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ta, W, Re, Os, Ir and Pt;

said second intermediate layer containing oxygen and being composed of at least one element selected from the group consisting of Ru, Re and Os;

~~wherein:~~ a crystal structure of said first intermediate layer is hexagonal close packed;
a crystal structure of said second intermediate layer is hexagonal close packed; and
a misfit between lattice constants of unit cells of said first intermediate layer and unit cells of said second intermediate layer is within $\pm 3\%$.

Claim 13 (Original) A magnetic recording medium according to claim 10, wherein
said under-layer is at least one of chromium and a chromium alloy; and at least one of a (200) lattice plane and a (211) lattice plane in said under layer is preferentially oriented in parallel with a film surface of said under-layer.

Claims 14-17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Original) A magnetic recording device comprising: a magnetic recording medium as defined by claim 10.